

**Network of Victim Assistance/SafePlace
Disabilities Grant Project**

The purpose of this survey is to gather information and develop a needs assessment in our community to assist people with disabilities who have been victims of a crime. NOVA (Network Of Victim Assistance) has received a grant from SafePlace in Austin, Texas to assess the needs in Bucks County and implement a plan that will increase access and develop or improve services to crime victims with disabilities. We appreciate your assistance in completing the following survey.

1. Please tell us about yourself:

Name: _____

Place of employment: _____

Position: _____

How long have you held this position/ worked for this organization? _____

Are you a resident of Bucks County? Yes No

For how long? _____

Would you describe yourself as a person with a disability from the definition listed below?
Yes No

For purposes of this survey, a disability includes a cognitive impairment (i.e. mental retardation), physical (i.e. use of mobility device), sensory (i.e. blindness/deafness), mental illness (i.e. Schizophrenia), or chronic health issues (i.e. severe diabetes, HIV).

2. Do you assist or support people with disabilities in the work that you do? Yes No

If yes, please explain in what way: _____

3. Do you directly work with or refer people with disabilities that have been a victim of a crime?

Yes No
If yes, please explain: _____

4. Do you have any family, friends, neighbors, etc. who are people with disabilities?

Yes No

5. Have they had any interactions with crime victimization that you are aware of?

Yes No

If yes, please elaborate:

Please answer the following questions by giving us your opinion:

6. Do you believe that people with disabilities are more likely, less likely, or have the same chances than an individual who does not have a disability to become a victim of a crime?

Please circle: More Less Same

7. Do you think that people with disabilities that have been a victim of a crime, report the crime to the police, more, less or the same as someone without a disability?

Please circle: More Less Same

8. Do you think there are barriers that make it difficult for investigation or prosecution of cases involving crime victims with disabilities?

Yes No

8a. If you answered yes, please explain why and what are they:

8b. If you answered no, please explain why:

9. Please check the following barriers that you believe to be important in preventing people with disabilities to receive services in Bucks County when they have been victims of a crime. Then, please rank the 3 most important ones (1 = most important).

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| _____ Communication | _____ Transportation | _____ Apathy among the community |
| _____ Lack of resources | _____ Fear from the victim that the criminal justice system will not believe them | _____ Poor previous experience with the criminal justice system |
| _____ Unaware of who to call | _____ Lack of knowledge of resources from the community | |
| _____ Fear of retaliation from abuser | _____ Fear of poor justice outcome | |
| _____ Other: _____ | | |
| _____ | | |

10. Why do you think they are the most important ones? _____

11. From the most important ones, what do you think could be possible solutions? _____

12. Are you familiar with the community services that are available to people with disabilities that have been a victim of a crime?

Yes

No

13. Have you ever referred a crime victim with disabilities to any community services or victim services?

Yes

No

If yes, to whom? _____

14. We would like to get more information about services to people with disabilities. From your perspective, what would be the best way for us to do that?

15. Is there any further information or questions that you feel we may have overlooked? If so, please share additional comments below:

Thank you for your time and assisting us to make a difference in Bucks County!

Interviewed by: _____

Date: _____

For additional information please contact:

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